COMMISSIONERS:
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## Copyright Royalty Tribunal

1111 20TH STREET, N.W. WASHINGTON, D.C. 20579

July 19, 1979

Mr. Steve Cordaro 37-54 99th Street Corona, New York 11368

Dear Mr. Cordaro:

Thank you very much for your letter.

Please know that when the issue of the mechanical royalty rate comes before the Tribunal next year we will take your concerns into very active consideration.

Sincerely yours,

Douglas Coulter

Chairman

Steve Cordaro 37-54 99th Street Corona, New York 11368

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July 2, 1979

## Gentlemen:

I am writing to you regarding the upcoming review of mechanical royalty rates in the U.S.

As a songwriter, I find it appalling that in a country like the U.S. the mechanical rate is a paltry 2 3/4¢ while in Europe the rates range from  $6\frac{1}{2}\%$  to 8%.

The record companies, through the RIAA, are crying poverty and yet the recording industry is the highest grossing industry in the entertainment field. They are far from suffering.

I favor a "Percentage Plan" for U.S. mechanical rates, as they have in Europe. The "Penny Plan" is just not feasible for to-day's songwriters and publishers. The record companies in Europe are thriving with the Percentage Plan, so much so that they are buying out U.S. record companies, and the writers and publishers get their fair share, and that's all we writers and publishers in the U.S. are asking for - our fair share.

I hope you will take this letter into account when you review the mechanical rate at the next meeting of the Copyright Royalty Tribunal.

Thank you.

Yours sincerely.

Steve Cordaro